

City of Falls Church

Meeting Date: 09-27-21	Title: (TR21-30) RESOLUTION TO NAME THE CITY PROPERTY AT 7100 GORDON ROAD AS “THE ROBERT L. GOFF OPERATIONS YARD”		Agenda No.: 10(b)(2)
Proposed Motion: MOVE to refer (TR21-30) to the Planning Commission, Historical Commission, and Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, schedule a public hearing for November 8, 2021 and advertise the same according the law.			
Originating Dept. Head: F. Wyatt Shields City Manager		Lead Staff: Zak Bradley, Director of Public Works ZEB 9-20-2021 Steven Mason, Director Human Resources	Disposition by Council:
City Manager: Wyatt Shields 703.248.5004 FWS 9-22-2021	City Attorney: Carol McCoskrie 703.248.5010 CWM 9-23-2021	CFO: Kiran Bawa 703.248.5092 KB 9-23-2021	City Clerk: Celeste Heath 703.248.5014 CH 09-23-21

REQUEST: Council is requested to name the City Property Yard as “The Robert L. Goff Operations Yard,” in honor of recently retired Public Work Operations Superintendent Robert Goff’s 40 years of service to the City and as a way to more broadly recognize the valuable work of the employees of the Department of Public Works Operations Division.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the proposed motion.

BACKGROUND: The City Manager, in consultation with numerous employees, residents, and appointed and elected officials, recommends that City Council name the City’s property yard as “The Robert L. Goff Operations Yard.” The request to name the facility follows the occasion of the recent retirement of Public Works Operations Superintendent Robert Goff as a way to recognize his exemplary service to the City and his dedication to serving the residents. Other members of the Goff family have also made tremendous contributions to the City, including Robert’s father Lawrence Goff, his brother Butch Goff, and his nephew Josh Goff. The naming resolution documents some of the achievements and a record of dedication to support the request. The facility name would also allow the City to recognize the valuable work of the entire DPW Operations team by having the facility named after one of their own, who started as a maintenance worker and was promoted up through the ranks to Superintendent.

The criteria and procedure for naming City facilities is provided for in [City Code Section 2-210, “Naming of Public Property or Facility.”](#) The Code requires that the naming be done by resolution. Council must hold a public hearing and seek a recommendation from the Planning Commission, Historical Commission, Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, and any other boards and/or commissions or community organizations that Council deems appropriate prior to adoption of the resolution.

Sec. 2-210. - Naming of public property or facility.

- (a) Criteria for naming city facilities. City facilities, including buildings and parks, ("facilities") shall generally be named according to the geographical, historical, or ecological relationships in which the site is located. Exceptions may be made in the following circumstances:

- (1) To commemorate an individual's service: Facilities may be named after an individual who has made significant contributions to the City of Falls Church through participation in community, state, or national service.
- (2) To help identify the facilities purpose/usage: A name may be assigned to a city facility if it helps to describe and identify the usage or purpose of the facility.

(b) Renaming city facilities. Renaming a city facility can occur if:

- (1) The criteria of subsection (a) are met;
- (2) A valid justification for renaming the facility is provided;
- (3) Changing the name will not cause undue confusion within the community; and
- (4) An appropriate level of community support exists.

(c) Process for naming city facilities.

- (1) The naming of any city-owned building, park, or other city-owned facility shall be by resolution of the city council.
- (2) Individuals and/or organizations may make recommendations to the city council regarding the naming or renaming of facilities, parks, public open space areas and other related components of facilities.
- (3) Prior to adopting a resolution naming a city-owned facility, the city council shall hold a public hearing, and shall seek a recommendation from the following: The planning commission; the historical commission; the recreation and parks advisory board; and any other boards and/or commissions or community organization that the city council deems appropriate.

(d) The naming of school facilities shall be by action of the city school board, and is not subject to the provisions of this article.

FISCAL IMPACT: The cost for new signage, updating the City's web site, and other expenses associated with naming the facility is estimated to be \$5,000, which will be absorbed by the DPW operating budget.

TIMING: Routine.

ATTACHMENTS: None.

RESOLUTION TO NAME THE CITY PROPERTY AT 7100 GORDON
AVENUE AS “THE ROBERT L. GOFF OPERATIONS YARD”

WHEREAS, Robert Goff dedicated his career in service to the City of Falls Church for over forty years and showed exemplary leadership as the Superintendent of Operations for the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goff started work for the City in May 1981 in the Water Utility as a maintenance worker, rose to be appointed Superintendent of Operations in October 2000, and retired from the City on July 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goff was recognized as the City’s Employee of the Year in 1997 for his outstanding work and responsiveness in the operation of the Water Utility; and

WHEREAS Mr. Goff was always on duty to restore order after natural disasters, managing critical DPW operations for Hurricane Isabel (2003); “Snowmageddon” (2010); The Derecho (2012); and Tropical Storm Lee (2014), along with countless other events, and was always the “calm within the storm” in any emergency; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goff supported the residents of Falls Church with special events every year, such as the Memorial Day Festival, Martin Luther King Day, Watch Night, Independence Day Celebrations, Holiday Tree Lighting, hundreds of neighborhood block parties, and countless other special events that required Public Works support; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goff ensured that DPW Operations was ready and able to support all City Departments and, day in and day out, Mr. Goff set a standard for leadership and honesty that the hard working men and women of his team in DPW Operations relied upon, and that all City employees continue to aspire to; and

WHEREAS, residents of the City knew that they could rely on Mr. Goff for assistance during wind storms, floods, and blizzards, and that they would always be greeted with a “can do” attitude for solving problems; and

WHEREAS, naming the Property Yard as “The Robert L. Goff Operations Yard” provides a positive recognition of not just Robert Goff’s dedication to the City but also of the dedication of all the men and women of DPW Operations who have dedicated their labor to the benefit of the City; and

WHEREAS, this naming meets the criteria of City Code Section 2-210 for naming a facility “to Commemorate an Individual’s Service: Facilities may be named after an individual who has made significant contributions to the City of Falls Church through participation in community, state, or national service;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Falls Church, Virginia, that the City property located at 7100 Gordon Road, known as the Property Yard, be formally named “The Robert L. Goff Operations Yard” to honor this long-time City

126 employee and Operations Superintendent and the hard working and dedicated members of the
127 Department of Public Works Operations Division.
128

129 Reading:
130 Public Hearing:
131 Adoption: _____
132 (TR21-30)